

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 166504
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166504

NODIS

FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT RABAT 3890, SENT SECSTATE 16 JULY:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3890

NODIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO, CD, US

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REF: STATE 166492

1. AS NOTED IN RABAT 3776, MOROCCANS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING CHAD SITUATION WITH FRENCH AND EGYPTIANS, AND MIGHT CONSIDER PROVIDING CHAD WITH LIMITED MATERIAL BUT NOT TROOPS. ANY DECISION WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT KING HASSAN'S ASSESSMENT OF FINDINGS OF GOM MILITARY MISSION RECENTLY SENT TO CHAD. MOROCCANS WOULD WELCOME ASSISTANCE TO CHAD BY OTHERS. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD, IN OUR JUDGMENT, PREFER A SERIES OF COORDINATED BILATERAL EFFORTS TO A FORMAL MEETING WHICH LIKELY TO BECOME CONFIDENTIAL

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WIDELY KNOWN. TYPICAL MOROCCAN DISCRETION WOULD BE ALL THE GREATER BECAUSE OF FEAR OF LIBYAN RETALIATION AGAINST MOROCCO BY STEPPING UP ASSISTANCE TO THE POLISARIO GUERRILLAS IN THE SAHARA.

2. IF DEPARTMENT NEVERTHELESS DECIDES TO PURSUE IDEA OF CONFERENCE, PARIS WOULD NOT BE IDEAL FROM MOROCCAN POINT OF

VIEW, AS THIS WOULD IMPLY LEADING ROLE FOR NON-AFRICAN, FORMER COLONIAL POWER IN A REGIONAL DISPUTE. MOROCCANS WOULD BE LEAST AVERSE TO CAIRO OR ANOTHER SITE IN AFRICA, BUT NOT RABAT.

3. EXTENT OF MOROCCAN ASSISTANCE TO CHAD WILL NECESSARILY BE LIMITED, IN LIGHT OF GOM'S PRESSING MILITARY NEEDS. SMALL ARMS AND VEHICLES SEEM MOST LIKELY ITEMS MOROCCANS COULD SPARE IN TOKEN QUANTITIES. ANDERSON UNQUOTE. VANCE

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